



J. TYLER McCAULEY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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December 30, 2005

TO: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley   
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – OLIVE CREST  
TREATMENT CENTERS, INCORPORATED, LENA AND LYON  
GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Lena and Lyon Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Olive Crest Treatment Centers, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Lena and Lyon Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Lena Group Home was providing services for one Los Angeles County probation child, four Riverside County probation children and one Bakersfield County probation child. Lyon Group Home was providing services for one Los Angeles DCFS child, three Riverside County probation children, one Orange County probation child, and one Orange County DCFS child.

Lena and Lyon Group Homes are located in Riverside County.

**Scope of Review**

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues, and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection,

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and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency, and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

### **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the treatment services as outlined in their Program Statement. However, the Agency needs to address several deficient areas.

Both Group Homes need to clean the carpeting throughout the homes; provide all children with the minimum required allowance; and develop and implement Needs and Services Plans with input from the child and their placement worker.

Lena Group Home needs to landscape the backyard, repair the side yard fence; repair the broiler door on the stove; replace the kitchen sink; remove the iron burn marks from the carpet in the living room; replace the light bulb in the bathroom; clean the curtains and remove writing from the bulletin boards in bedrooms one and two; clean the walls in bedrooms two and three; and encourage and assist all children in maintaining a life book.

Lyon Group Home needs to repair the crack in the kitchen counter; and clean the living room sofas and loveseat.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

### **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:gfw  
[http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group\\_home.asp](http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp)

Attachments

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
David Sanders, Ph.D., Director, DCFS  
Paul Higa, Chief Probation Officer  
Donald Verleur, Executive Director, Olive Crest Treatment Centers  
Public Information Office  
Audit Committee

**Olive Crest Treatment Centers  
Lena Group Home  
23152 Lena Street  
Moreno Valley, California 92553  
Phone: 951-686-8500  
License Number: 330910089  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

Lena Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean. However, the back yard is not adequately landscaped, and the fence along the side yard is not secure.

The common quarters are neat and clean, and there is adequate furniture. However, there are several iron burn marks and stains on the living room carpet. In the kitchen, the sink is worn and damaged, and the stove broiler door is broken.

Children's rooms are orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. However, the curtains are dirty, and there is writing on the bulletin boards in bedrooms one and three. The walls in bedrooms two and three are dirty.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods

**Recommendations**

**1. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management:**

- a. Landscape the backyard.**
- b. Repair the fence.**
- c. Repair or replace the carpet.**

- d. Replace the kitchen sink.**
- e. Repair the broiler door.**
- f. Clean or replace the curtains in bedrooms one and three.**
- g. Replace the bulletin boards in bedrooms one and three.**
- h. Clean the walls in bedrooms two and three.**

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

### **Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child is assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs); however, input from the child and placement worker is not included. The NSPs are current, comprehensive, and include long and short-term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

### **Recommendation**

- 1. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management include input from the child and placement worker in the development and implementation of the NSPs.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interview**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

### **Comments:**

The child is attending school. The child is provided with educational support and resources to meet his educational needs, and is progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of the child's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

The child is provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interview**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides the child with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. The Child is given opportunities to participate in planning activities. The child is allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which he has an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

According to the Agency's management there are no children receiving psychotropic medication. This information is appropriately documented.

The child is aware of his right to refuse medication.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **VI. Personal Rights**

### **Method of assessment –Interview with child**

#### **Sample size for interviews: One**

#### **Comments:**

The child is informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and reports that staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. The child is allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. The child is able to attend religious services of his choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

The child receives voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

#### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **VII. Clothing and Allowance**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interview**

#### **Sample size for interviews: One**

#### **Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to the child. The child is given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to the child is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The child is permitted to spend his allowance as he chooses. However, the Group Home does not provide the child with the required minimum base allowance.

The Group Home provides the child with adequate personal care items.

However, the child is not encouraged or assisted in creating and maintaining a photo album/life book.

**Recommendations**

**2. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management:**

- a. Provide all children with the required minimum base allowance.**
- b. Encourage and assist all children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.**



**Olive Crest Treatment Centers  
Lyon Group Home  
20025B Vista Del Lago  
Perris, California 92570  
Phone: 951-686-8500  
License Number: 336403698  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

Lyon Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The common quarters are neat. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the carpeting in the common quarters, and the living room couches and the love seat are stained and dirty. There is large crack in the kitchen counter.

Overall, children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. However, carpeting in the children's bedrooms is stained and dirty.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

**Recommendations**

**1. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management:**

- a. Clean the carpeting throughout the Group Home.**
- b. Clean the living room furniture.**
- c. Repair the kitchen counter.**

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child is assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs); however, input from the child and placement worker is not included. The NSPs are current, comprehensive, and include long and short-term goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

### **Recommendation**

- 2. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management include input from the child and placement worker in the development and implementation of the NSPs.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interview**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child is attending school. The child is provided with educational support and resources to meet his educational needs, and is progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of the child's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

The child is provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interview**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides the child with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. The child is given opportunities to participate in planning activities.

The child is allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

The child has a current court authorization for psychotropic medication. Documentation confirms that the child is routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

The child is informed about his psychotropic medication, and is aware of his right to refuse medication.

Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interview with child**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child is informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and reports that staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. The child is allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. The child is able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

The child receives voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: Two**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to child. The child is given opportunities to select his own clothes. Clothing provided to the child is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The child is permitted to spend his allowance as he chooses; however, the Group Home does not provide the child with the required minimum base allowance.

The Group Home provides the child with adequate personal care items.

The child is encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining a photo album/life book.

**Recommendation**

3. Olive Crest Treatment Centers management provide children with the required minimum base allowance.



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Attachment  
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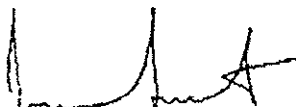
November 17, 2005

Greta F Walters  
Department of Children and Family Services  
500 W. Temple Street  
Suite 515A  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Greta

Thank you for your visit and feedback regarding the Lena House. Attached you will find for your review the Plan of Corrections we have implemented as a result of your recommendations. If you have any further questions or if this Plan is not adequate please contact me as soon as possible so that we may attend immediately.

Sincerely,



Jerome Smith  
Division Director



<p>Lena Group Home 23152 Lena Street Moreno Valley, California 92553 951-686-8500</p>		
<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Work complete</i>	<i>Work to be completed by:</i>
<i>Facility and Environment</i>		
Backyard Landscape	9-15-05	
Backyard Fence Repair		Bids to be secured by 12-10-05
Repair or Replace Carpeting		Bids to be secured by 12-10-05
Replace Kitchen sink		Bids to be secured by 12-10-05
Repair Broiler door on oven	9-15-05	
Clean or Replace curtains in Bedroom 1 and 2	9-17-05	
Replace Bulletin Boards in Bedroom 1 and 3	9-20-05	
Clean walls in Bedroom 2 and 3	9-18-05	
<i>Program Services</i>		
Include child and placement worker feedback in Needs and Service Plans	Adjustments made to facilitate involvement 10-2005	
<i>Clothing and Allowance</i>		
Provide all children with the required minimum base allowance	Proper adjustments made effective 9-2005	
Encourage and assist all children in creating and maintaining photo album/life book.	Ongoing	

<b>Lyon Group Home</b> <b>20025B Vista Del Lugo</b> <b>Perris, California 92570</b> <b>951-686-8500</b>		
<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Work complete</i>	<i>Work to be completed by:</i>
<i>Facility and Environment</i>		
Clean Carpets throughout Group Home	Carpets Cleaned 10-5-05	
Clean Living room furniture	Furniture replaced October 10-2005	
<i>Clothing and Allowance</i>		
Provide all children with the required minimum base allowance	Proper adjustments made effective 9-2005	